Hal Cobb 2/17/74

"ong time, huh?

If I remember correctly, the Whites told me that you stay very busy with the success of your hobby-sideline.

However, in the course of checking something out in my files I find a reference to one of yours where while I am not certain that I'm in pay-dirty the indications are good. I explain.

For months I fed the media what turned out to be first-rate leads and facts and analyses on The Watergate, but with the hot stuff there was fear, really terror. In the end I decided to do my own book on it, without contract or prospect. Despite the Pulitzer, there has been NO original reporting. There has been the diligent pursuit of leaks.

As soon as Hunt's name appeared, inquiry proved productive. I presume you have kept up enough to know the obvious. One of the first things that emerged is the probability that he had something to do with killing the second if not the first deal I had on Whitewash. He was then still in CIA and in domestic intelligence, from persuasive stuff I have developed. This includes even the cover office from which he worked and his cover on that.

I have now developed connections between him and others in turn connected with the Free Cuba Committee, CCFC I think it was called, and connections between it and others.

This seems to be one of the too many cases in which those I've trusted have decimated my files. Some of what I recall is missing. One of the things remaining is an illegible copy of part of a letter from you dealing with CCFC.

I can't go into all the reasons, and there are more than those above, but this is one of those leads that really should be followed thoroughly. So I write in the hopes that you can find time to go to your old files and get that on CCFC and all that can be relevant and send me copies. I also think that the Whites should go over those files. We have been working together on some of this and to the degree possible I have been keeping them informed. I'll send them a carbon of this.

And if you can still tap Cuban sources, that might be valuable if you let me know. As well as any info you do not have on CCFC.

In the years since we have been in touch I have developed enough to go to court against CIA for violations of my rights. The problem is being able to afford it. One with whom I work closely now is unknown to you. He is a fine young lawyer. We are working on this together. I no longer keep in contact with most of those you know me to be in touuh with, based on what happened.

It would be much better if you were as circumspect as possible, saying nothing that need not be said to anyone who need not be contacted. This is a hairy area, please believe me, and it connects with the hairiest part of the Watergate story. The largely unexposed partx.

If you can find any other time, there is a research project I would ask of you that would require a trip of perhaps 30 miles. There is nobody else I will ask to do this, so if you can t it will go undone. The reason is that I will want nobody else to be privvy because of the urgent need for confidentiality. Urgent enough to not do it rather than run any risk of loose talk or subsequent irresponsible misuse. You, I know, do not do things like those. It would be library work.

Some of this traces to New Orleans in ways I can t now go into. Take too long.

If you do not have time, I'll understand. Thanks either way, and best regards,